

REMARKS

Claims 1-67 are pending in the case. All claims are subject to a restriction/election requirement. In the present submission, claims 1, 23, 32, 51, 56, 60, 61 and 66 have been amended and claims 68-79 have been added. The claims and the specification have been amended to correct typographical errors. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant identifies below the several species of the claimed invention and makes an election thereof. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the application contains claims directed to five patentably distinct species of the claimed invention as follows: (1) Figs. 1-7, (2) Fig. 8, (3) Fig. 9, (4) Fig. 10, and (5) Fig. 11. (See page 2 of the Office Action.) Applicant submits that while the claims of the present application can be taken as being directed to various patentably distinct species of the claimed invention, the division of the various species in the Office Action is not entirely accurate. In the present submission, Applicant proposes an alternate definition of the species which more accurately describes the claimed invention.

First, the following claims are generic:

Claims 68, 72 and 76.

The claimed invention can be divided into the following three species with the following claims readable on each species (independent claims are highlighted in bold):

<u>Species</u>	<u>Figures</u>	<u>Claims readable on the species</u>
1	8	1 and 2-8; 32 and 33-37; 56 and 57-59; and 69; 73; 77.
2	10	12 and 13-22; 41 and 42-50; 60; 61 and 62-65; and 70; 74; 78.
3	1, 9 and 11	9-11; 23 and 24-31; 38-40; 51 and 52-55; 66 and 67; and 71, 75; 79.

By way of explanation, Figure 8 illustrates a laser turn-on accelerator circuit using a timer circuit and Figure 10 illustrates a laser turn-on accelerator circuit using close loop

control with an one-shot logic circuit. Figures 1 and 9 illustrate the same laser turn-on accelerator circuit applying to laser diodes of reverse polarities. Figures 1, 9 and 11 illustrate laser turn-on accelerator circuits incorporating timer and close loop control.

In response to the restriction/election requirement, Applicant hereby elects species 3 (Figures 1, 9 and 11) as defined above. The claims elected for examination on merits therefore include all the generic claims and the claims readable on species 3. *Claims in species 3 (claims 9-11 and 38-40) that are dependent upon independent claims in species 1 are not elected.* The elected claims are:

Claims 23-31; 51-55; 66-67; 68; 71; 72; 75; 76 and 79.

The following claims are withdrawn from consideration: Claims 1-11, 12-22, 32-40, 41-50, 56-65, 69, 70, 73, 74, 77, and 78.

If the Examiner would like to discuss any aspect of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (408) 382-0480 x208.

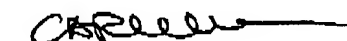
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